UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/AC.25/1991/3
9 January 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SECURITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED
BY RESOLUTION 661 (1990) CONCERNING
THE SITUATION BETWEEN IRAQ AND KUWAIT

NOTE VERBALE DATED 8 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF ZIMBABWE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Permanent Mission of Zimbabwe to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General and has the honour to forward the enclosed response of the Government of Zimbabwe to the questionnaire relating to the implementation of Security Council resolution 661 (1990).

Annex

Implementation of resolution 661 (1990): answers to questionnaire on national measures

1. (a) Zimbabwe, by virtue of its membership in the United Nations, accepts Security Council decisions as binding. Accordingly resolution 661 (1990) has received Zimbabwe's total support and is being implemented fully;

(b) On 7 August 1990, Zimbabwe announced the immediate suspension of its trade agreement with Iraq. At the same time, Zimbabwe declared its intention to seek alternative sources of fuel to fill the gap created by Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, from which Zimbabwe previously procured nearly 70 per cent of its total petroleum imports. The suspension of trade with Iraq took the form of a ministerial proclamation and as such all the relevant State organs had to comply fully. Thus tobacco-exporting companies immediately cancelled all business transactions with Iraq and Iraq-occupied Kuwait;

(c) As indicated in paragraph 1 (b) above the measures undertaken by Zimbabwe in connection with this resolution were embodied in a ministerial proclamation. The relevant ministries, namely the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, the Ministry of Industry and Commerce and the Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Development, all initiated the necessary internal administrative orders to ensure compliance. The Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe automatically took the new policy into account and extended its full support to these measures. Since these steps were introduced, no commercial transactions have been carried out with Iraq and Iraq-occupied Kuwait.

2. (a) The Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, the Ministry of Industry and Commerce and, in the case of oil imports, the Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Development handle procurement policy and procedure. The Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe also plays a central role;

(b) So far, because of the specialized and limited nature of trade with Iraq and Kuwait (tobacco and oil) it has been easy for the relevant bodies such as the National Oil Company of Zimbabwe to effect the necessary steps. The need for any special preventative measures has thus not arisen.

3. (a) The Ministry of Industry and commerce, in conjunction with the Reserve Bank, issues all export permits for goods originating from Zimbabwe;

(b) Exports to Iraq and Kuwait have traditionally been limited to tobacco. But the exportation of this commodity has been handled by a single body. Administrative measures undertaken by this body have been sufficiently strong to ensure compliance with the ministerial proclamation.

4. (a) It is the duty of the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe in collaboration with the ministries outlined in paragraph 2 (a) above to ensure that no such transfers take place;

(b) There have been no significant transactions between Zimbabwe and Iraq/Kuwait since the invasion on 2 August 1990. It has not been found necessary to impose any special limitations as such.

5. The existing laws of the country are considered to be adequate in ensuring full compliance with resolution 661 (1990) and bringing to justice any potential violators. A variety of penalties exist and these are determined by the specific circumstances related to a given case.

6. (a) So far it has not been found necessary to invoke any special legislation in ensuring the implementation of resolution 661 (1990). As stated in paragraph 1 (b) above, Zimbabwe's main task now is to continue to identify new sources of petroleum to replace the supplies previously obtained from Kuwait. The country continues to face mounting fuel procurement costs and this exerts a negative effect on general economic performance;

(b) All contracts have, in conformity with the ministerial directive of 7 August 1990, been suspended;

(c) As there are no legitimate Kuwaiti assets to protect in Zimbabwe, it has not been found necessary to introduce any specific measures.